

Data and Figure Files: Amplifying Every Voice With Inclusive Pedagogies Using Oral Communication Studio

List of Figures

<p>What was the mode of this consultation? In person</p> <p>What type of consultation was it? discussion of an oral presentation; Discussion of a visual communication project;</p> <p>What type of project did you discuss during this session? PPT slides; List below if other;</p> <p>List the type of project that you worked on if you chose other in the previous question Dissertation defense.</p> <p>How many pages (double-spaced) did you discuss during your consultation? n/a</p> <p>What writing process strategies did you discuss? Editing;</p> <p>What Higher Order Concerns did you discuss during the session? Genre conventions (how to write in this form); Visual Rhetoric; Argument claim; Argument support;</p> <p>What Lower Order Concerns did you cover during the session? Concision;</p> <p>What grammar issues did you address? n/a;</p> <p>Explain the most important 1-3 topics that you discussed during the session. Reviewing draft slides for the dissertation defense. Identifying opportunities to trim and compress to stay within time constraints. Editing visual details for clarity, simplicity, and legibility.</p>

Figure 1. An example of a client report form.



Figure 2. Oral Communication Studio at the Writing and Communication Center.

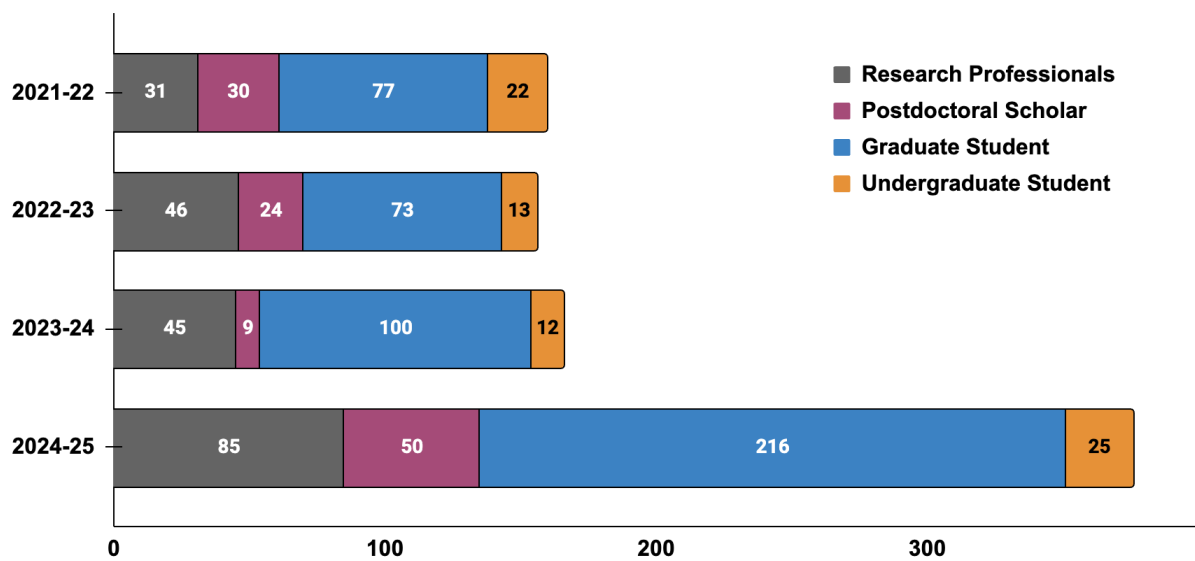


Figure 3. The number of oral communication consultations by research professionals, postdoctoral scholars, graduate students, and undergraduate students by year.

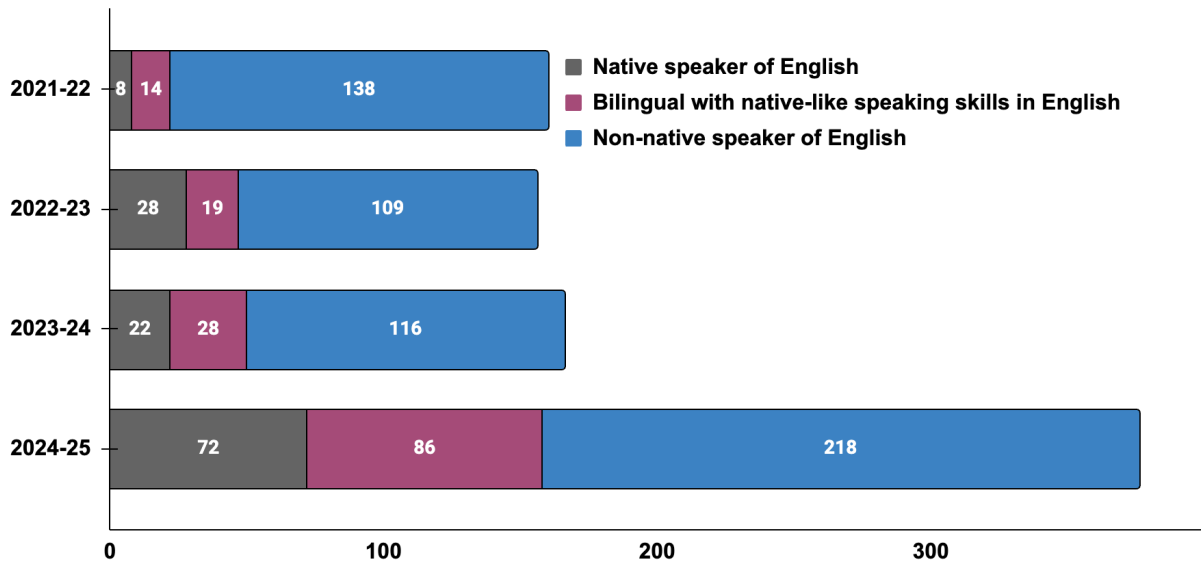


Figure 4. The number of oral communication consultations by native English speakers, multilingual speakers, and non-native English speakers by year.

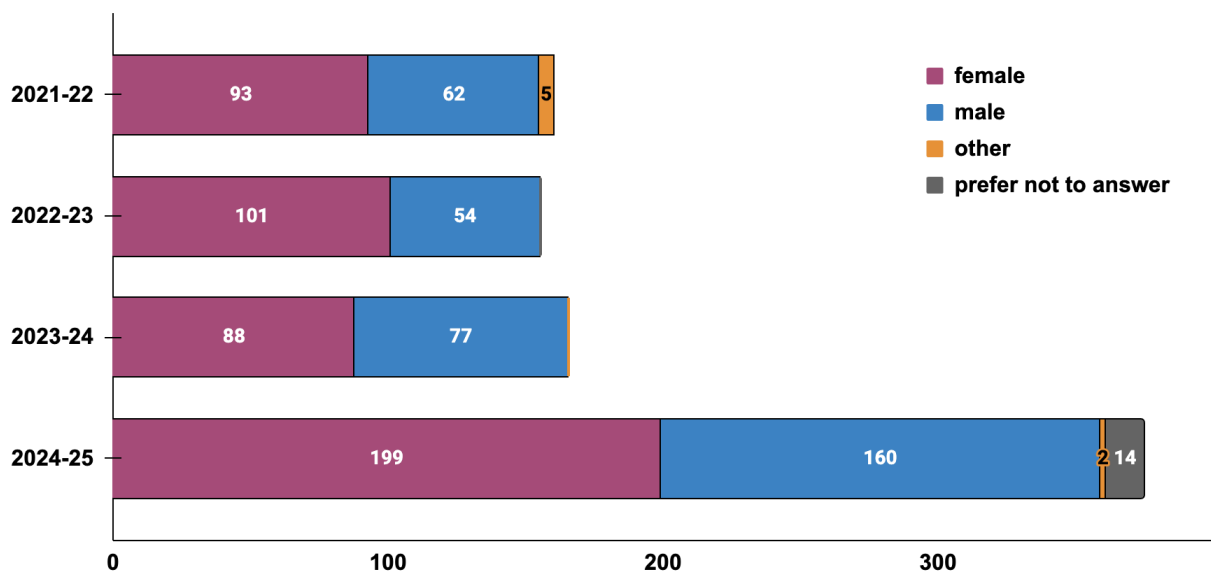


Figure 5. The number of oral communication consultations across genders by year.

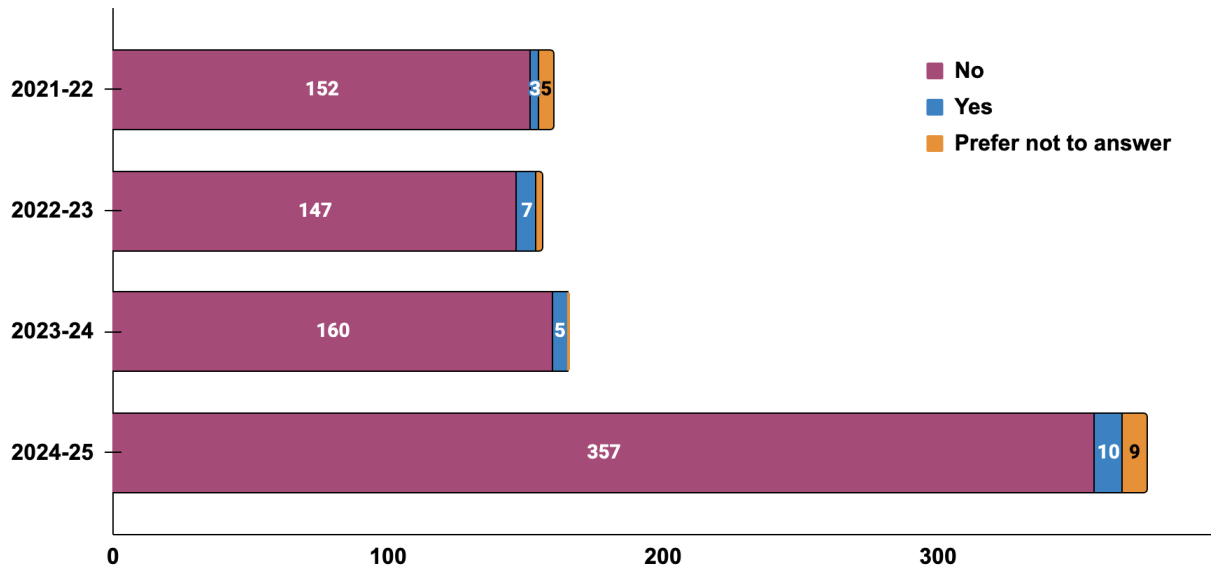


Figure 6. The number of oral communication consultations across different neurodivers groups by year.

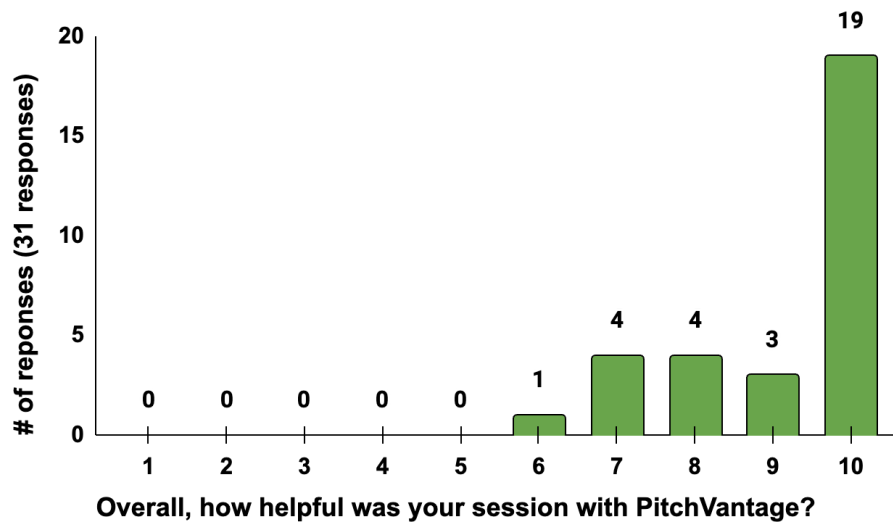


Figure 7. Anonymous survey responses about the helpfulness of studio sessions.

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Table 1. Types of oral communication themes.

Themes	Topic	Definition	Keywords
Rhetorical Situation	Audience Awareness	Speaker's adaptation to disciplinary, interdisciplinary, or lay audiences; consideration of prior knowledge.	audience, listeners, accessible, technical, general, assume knowledge, too detailed, too vague.
	Genre Expectations & Conventions	Alignment with norms of a specific presentation genre, including conference talk, class presentation, defense, etc.	conventions, format, style, disciplinary norms
Content Development	Opening & Conclusion	Effectiveness of introductions, previews, conclusions, and takeaways.	hook, start, opening, closing, ending, conclusion, takeaway.
	Organization & Structure	Logical sequencing of ideas, flow of sections, order of arguments	order, structure, outline, roadmap, flow of ideas
	Argument, Claim, Evidence & Support	Use of data, examples, citations, or reasoning to back up claims.	argument, claim, evidence, support, examples, proof, data, statistics
Visual Communication	PPT Slides & Design	Clarity, readability, visual appeal of PowerPoint or similar slides	slides, PowerPoint, PPT, font size, text density, bullets
	Figures/ Graphs/ Visuals	Use and explanation of charts, diagrams, images	figures, graphs, diagrams, charts, images, visuals
Language Clarity and Style	Transitions	Connections between sections or ideas; smoothness of movement.	transitions, moving from, linking, segues.
	Grammar & Language Accuracy	Correctness of grammar, syntax, or language mechanics	grammar, sentence structure, tense, correctness
	Word Choice and Verbal Clarity	Appropriateness and clarity of vocabulary used	wording, phrasing, clear language

	Jargon & Technical Vocabulary	Appropriateness of technical terms; balancing precision vs. accessibility	jargon, technical vocabulary, terminology
	Concision	Brevity and elimination of unnecessary words	concise, wordy, repetition, redundant
Delivery and Practice	Pronunciation	Correct and clear articulation of words	pronunciation, mispronounced, articulation
	Intonation/ Prosody	Use of pitch variation to emphasize meaning or avoid monotony	intonation, monotone, pitch, emphasis
	Rehearsal/ Talk practice	Degree of practice before the presentation	rehearsal, practice, preparation, did not rehearse, role-play, exercise, drill, mock presentation, conversational practice.
	Fluency	Smoothness and flow of speech during delivery, including natural pacing and minimal hesitations.	fluent, flow, smooth delivery, hesitations, pauses, "um," "uh," filler words, stumbling
Engagement and Self-Management	Body Language	Physical presence, gestures, posture, movement	gestures, posture, stance, body movement
	Eye Contact	Engagement with audience through gaze	eye contact, looking at slides, looking at audience
	Time Management	Staying within the allotted time; pacing	time management, length, pacing, too fast, too long
	Nervousness & Anxiety	Speaker's visible nervousness or anxiety.	nervous, anxious, stress, comfort
	Confidence	Speaker's confidence and authority	confident, unsure, hesitant
	Comprehension & Listening	The speaker's ability to listen actively, respond appropriately to questions or feedback, and demonstrate understanding during interactive parts of the	listening, comprehension, response, understanding, follow-up

		session.	
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Table 2. Sessions on Oral Communication Projects by Academic Year

Academic Year	Total # of consultations	# of Oral Consultations	% of Oral Consultations
2021-22	3564	160	4.5%
2022-23	3514	156	4.4%
2023-24	3241	166	5.1%
2024-25	3343	376	11.2%
Total	13,662	858	6.3%

Table 3. Oral communication consultations vs. all consultations by users with different roles

Role	Sessions on Oral Communication	All Consultations	% of Oral Consultations from All Consultations
Research Professionals	207	3230	6.41%
Postdoctoral Scholar	113	1185	9.54%
Graduate Student	466	7102	6.56%
Undergraduates	72	2145	3.36%

Table 4. Oral communication consultations vs. all consultations by speakers of different linguistic proficiency groups.

English Language Proficiency	Sessions on Oral Communication	All Consultations	% of Oral Consultations from All Consultations
Native speaker of English	130	4721	2.75%
Bilingual with native-like speaking skills in English	147	2245	6.55%
Non-native speaker of English	581	6696	8.68%

Table 5. Oral communication consultations vs. all consultations across genders.

Gender	Sessions on Oral Communication	All Consultations	% of Oral Consultations from All Consultations
Female	481	8,342	5.8%
Male	353	4,784	7.4%
Other	8	199	4.0%
Prefer not to answer	15	337	4.5%

Table 6. Oral communication consultations vs. all consultations across neurodiverse students.

Learning Disabilities	Sessions on Oral Communication	All Consultations	% of Oral Consultations from All Consultations
No	816	12,193	6.69%
Yes	25	576	4.34%
Prefer not to answer	17	893	1.90%

Table 7. The distribution of projects and genres across four types of consultation users.

What type of project did you discuss during this session?	Research Professionals	Post-doctoral Scholars	Graduate Students	Under-graduate Students	Overall
Developing ideas for oral presentations	1.0%	0.0%	1.1%	10.4%	1.6%
Conference Presentations	30.4%	26.5%	15.4%	4.5%	19.6%
Oral Presentations	27.5%	31.9%	25.1%	16.4%	25.9%
Presentation for a class	16.4%	13.3%	21.5%	37.3%	20.4%
Pronunciation and conversation practice	24.6%	28.3%	36.9%	31.3%	32.4%

Table 8. Project types discussed during each session.

Project Types Discussed During One Session	% of Sessions	# of Sessions
Discussions of one oral communication project	70.5%	605
Discussion of 2+ oral communication projects	21.1%	181
Discussion of one oral and one written project	8.4%	72

Table 9. The distribution of consultation topics across four academic years (2021-2025).

Theme	Consultation Topic	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Average
Rhetorical Situation	Audience Awareness	23%	27%	26%	24%	25%
	Genre Expectations & Conventions	24%	21%	25%	24%	24%
Content Development	Opening & Conclusion	13%	12%	7%	9%	10%
	Organization & Structure	16%	19%	23%	20%	20%
	Argument, Evidence & Support	19%	25%	19%	23%	22%
Visual Communication	PPT Slides & Design	29%	26%	27%	26%	27%
	Figures/ Graphs/Visuals	10%	8%	8%	10%	9%
Language Clarity & Style	Transitions	7%	8%	7%	11%	8%
	Grammar & Language Accuracy	13%	13%	13%	13%	13%
	Word Choice & Clarity	15%	17%	17%	16%	16%
	Jargon/ Technical Vocabulary	4%	6%	5%	6%	5%
	Concision	7%	9%	11%	12%	10%
Delivery & Practice	Rehearsal	24%	22%	22%	26%	24%
	Fluency	21%	22%	24%	19%	22%
	Pronunciation	26%	24%	30%	24%	26%
	Intonation	10%	15%	16%	14%	14%
Engagement & Self-management	Eye Contact	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%
	Body Language	3%	1%	3%	5%	3%
	Time Management	9%	6%	2%	10%	7%
	Nervousness/ Anxiety	5%	5%	4%	5%	5%
	Confidence	2%	4%	4%	5%	4%
	Comprehension/ Listening	3%	3%	5%	3%	4%

Table 10. Consultation examples of *rhetorical situation*.

Examples for <i>Rhetorical Situation</i>	Topics	Consultee
"Adding supporting details to the elevator pitch so that technical concepts become accessible to a non-technical audience."	Audience awareness and Genre Conventions	<i>a research scientist, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. non-native speaker.</i>
"Identifying the primary and secondary audiences as well as the speaker's purpose. Using audience, genre, and purpose to guide and delimit communication choices. Investing in the invention and planning stages to save time in the subsequent stages."	Audience awareness and Genre Conventions	A Master's student, in Economics, 1st year, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, multilingual speaker.

Table 11. Consultation examples of *content development*.

Examples for <i>Content Development</i>	Topics	Consultee
"Restructuring a presentation from a list of projects to a vision exemplified by selected projects. Backing abstract claims with concrete examples."	Organization & Structure; Argument, Evidence & Support	Visiting Scholar, School of Architecture and Planning, Media Lab, female, non-native speaker of English, native speaker of Chinese.
"Clarifying the problem and recommendation at the presentation's start. Linking the latter parts with the framing. Reducing the supporting details to only what's necessary."	Opening & Conclusion; Argument, Evidence & Support	Master's student, School of Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, male, non-native speaker of English, native speaker of Chinese.

Table 12. Consultation examples of *visual communication*.

Examples for Visual Communication	Topics	Consultee
"Creating appealing figures for slides to replace bulleted lists. Anticipating audience questions and doubts and revising accordingly."	slide design; figures & graphs	A visiting scholar, School of Architecture and Planning, Media Lab, female, non-native speaker of English, native speaker of Chinese.

“Identifying opportunities to reduce the visual information on particular slides. Animating highlights to emphasize a slide’s main points.”	slide design	Master’s student, School of Architecture and Planning, Architecture, female, non-native speaker of English, native speaker of Chinese.
“Locating information in the poster where viewers’ eyes tend to track and land. Strengthening transitions among sections and using verbal pointing to better integrate the oral and visual texts. Revising from the end to strengthen and clarify the information hierarchy.”	figures & graphs	Master’s student, School of Engineering, Aeronautics and Astronautics, female, native speaker of English.

Table 13. Consultation examples of *Delivery and Practice*.

Examples for <i>Delivery and Practice</i>	Topics	Consultee
“Applying intonation and pronunciation strategies previously practiced to a script prepared for an interview.”	Pronunciation Intonation Rehearsal	Master’s student, female, School of Management, non-native speaker of English, speaker of Spanish.
“Practicing /w/, /v/, /dd/, /tt/, and vowel sounds through minimal pairs. Fluency practice. Expanding the repertoire of syntactical structures used in conversation.”	Pronunciation Fluency	Undergraduate student, School of Science, Chemistry major, female, non-native speaker of English, native speaker of Turkish.

Table 14. Consultation examples for *Language, Clarity & Style*.

Examples for the Language, Clarity & Style	Theme	Consultee
“Finding areas in the motivation to compress to meet a time limit. Strengthening transitions among slides and sections to reinforce logic. Rehearsing to build confidence.”	Transitions; Concision	4th year PhD student, male, Sloan School of Management, Operations Research Center, non-native speaker of English, native speaker of Greek.
“Ran through the presentation together. Focused on fixing grammar and capitalization, making a few explanations of terms a bit clearer, and connecting some main themes.”	Grammar/ Language Accuracy; Jargon/Technical Vocabulary	Lecturer, female, School of Humanities Arts and Social Sciences, Course 21G: Global Studies and Languages, non-native speaker of English, native

		speaker of Japanese.
"Clarity of phrasing. Word choice. Explaining abstract concepts more clearly and concretely. It was the "script" for a slide presentation."	Word Choice; Concision	Faculty, female, School of Humanities Arts and Social Sciences, Anthropology, non-native speaker of English, native speaker of Mongolian.

Table 15. Consultation examples for *Engagement and Self-management*.

Examples for the Content Theme	Theme	Consultee
"Rehearsing his Research Slam talk. Managing nerves and staying present. Practicing eye contact and making gestures expansive."	Eye Contact; Body Language; Nervousness & Anxiety	Postdoctoral scholar, male, Environmental Solutions Initiative, native speaker of English.
"Building skills and confidence in presenting herself in English."	Confidence	Master's student, female, School of Engineering, Supply Chain Management, non-native speaker of English, native speaker of Spanish.
"Developing their understanding of prosody in English and applying it to improve comprehensibility and engagement. Listening to a range of authentic materials to developing listening comprehension skills."	Comprehension & Listening	Master's student, female, Sloan School of Management, Management, non-native speaker of English, native speaker of Spanish.

Table 16. Academic and demographic characteristics of instructor-led consultations and self-guided sessions

Academic Role	Instructor-led Consultations	Self-guided sessions
Research Professionals	24.1%	14.10%
Postdoctoral Scholars	13.2%	22.5%
Graduate Students	54.3%	60.6%
Undergraduate Students	8.4%	2.8%
English Language Proficiency	Instructor-led Consultations	Self-guided sessions
Multilinguals with native-like English skills	13.8%	33.8%

Native speaker of English	15.2%	25.4%
Non-native speaker of English	71.0%	40.9%
Gender	Instructor-led Consultations	Self-guided sessions
Female	56.1%	60.6%
Male	41.1%	36.6%
Other	0.9%	0
Prefer not to answer	1.7%	2.8%
Neurodiversity	Instructor-led Consultations	Self-guided sessions
Yes	2.9%	2.8%
No	95.1%	97.2%
Prefer not to answer	2.0%	0

Table 17. Frequency of projects in self-guided sessions

Types of projects practiced during studio sessions	# of sessions	% of sessions
Research presentation for the lab or department	24	33.8%
Public speaking presentation	6	23.9%
Class presentation	10	14.1%
Conference talk	6	8.5%
Job interview	6	8.5%
Internship interview	2	2.8%
Other	6	8.5%

Table 18. Comparison of instructor-led and self-guided sessions by audience types.

Audience Type	Instructor-led sessions	Self-guided sessions	Broad vs. Expert
interdisciplinary audience	16.1%	26.8%	Broad
general or lay audience	14.3%	15.5%	Broad
experts in my field	10.6%	23.9%	Expert
dissertation/ thesis advisor	1.5%	2.8%	Expert
dissertation/thesis committee	5.7%	5.6%	Expert

PI of the lab	7.3%	2.8%	Expert
class instructor	17.4%	11.3%	Expert
admissions committee	1.6%	1.4%	Expert
journal reviewers or editors	0.6%	0.0%	Expert
job search committee	10.0%	7.0%	Expert
conference reviewers	4.4%	0.0%	Expert
other	10.4%	2.8%	n/a

Table 19. Use of different functions in the studio sessions based on survey results.

Studio Functions	% of responses
Practiced my presentation	78.6%
Reviewed my feedback for content	71.4%
Reviewed my feedback for delivery skills	71.4%
Reviewed my feedback for body language	71.4%
Reviewed the transcript	35.7%
Watched tutorials	35.7%
Watched my recording	28.6%

Table 20. Most useful components of studio sessions based on survey results.

Functions	% of responses
Overall feedback	35.7%
Feedback on the body language	14.3%
The feedback on delivery skills	21.4%
The content feedback	14.3%
Video tutorials	14.3%
The transcript	14.3%

Table 21. Selected user feedback about the studio sessions

Selected feedback	Information about the users
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"I was surprised by how well the software was able to analyse me and give very detailed feedback that was also correct in terms of my subject theoretically."	a Ph.D. student, School of Science
"I was especially blown away by what the Oral Communication Studio could do. All the advice was right on point and provided a very user-friendly way to review my speech."	Master's student, School of Humanities and Social Sciences
"The public speaking studio was really good! I have been recommending it to other people from my department."	a Ph.D. student, School of Science
"The studio sessions gave a comprehensive evaluation across many aspects of my talk. While some of the feedback was daunting, it highlighted important areas for future improvement."	a Ph.D. student, School of Science
"I was actually blown away by the AI and how useful it was to point out things in my feedback. It also was very objective (humans always try to be more polite :))"	Master's student, School of Management

Table 22. Studio survey responses regarding follow-up instructor-led sessions.

Are you planning to schedule a follow up session with a WCC Lecturer?	% of responses
Yes	35.7%
Maybe	28.6%
No	35.7%

Table 23. Frequently, occasionally, and rarely discussed topics during instructor-led sessions.

Topics frequently discussed during sessions	% of sessions	Topics occasionally discussed during sessions	% of sessions	Topics rarely discussed during sessions	% of sessions
Audience Awareness	25%	Framing: Opening/ Conclusion	10%	Transitions	8%
Genre Expectations & Conventions	24%	Figures/ Graphs/Visuals	9%	Jargon & Technical Vocabulary	5%

Argument, Evidence & Support	22%	Grammar & Language Accuracy	13%	Eye Contact	1%
Organization/ Structure	20%	Word Choice & Clarity	16%	Body Language	3%
PPT Slides & Design	27%	Concision	10%	Time Management	7%
Rehearsal/ Preparation	24%	Intonation	14%	Nervousness/ Anxiety	5%
Fluency	22%			Confidence	4%
Pronunciation	26%			Comprehension/ Listening	4%